



**Stephanie
Rawlings-Blake
Mayor**

CITY OF BALTIMORE
LEPC
**LOCAL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE**



**Robert Maloney
Director**

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**Thursday, April 29, 2010
9:00 AM – 11:30 PM**

**Baltimore Hilton
401 W Pratt St. Baltimore MD, 21202**

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Captain Richard Williams at 9:40 AM.

Welcome Remarks – Robert Maloney, Director MOEM

Chairman Robert Maloney welcomed the attendees and announced that the next LEPC General Business meeting will be held on July 29, 2010. A venue has not yet been determined. Attendees were asked to forward suggestions for venues or interest in hosting a meeting to Rich Williams or to the LEPC electronic mailbox.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of November 29, 2009, were approved as previously distributed.

The LEPC Budget Account currently has a balance of \$11K from proceeds of the 2009 EPA Conference. The LEPC Advisory Committee will reconvene to strategize and plan for moving the Baltimore LEPC to an even higher level of success than that which is currently maintained.

Because of the success of the 2009 EPA Conference, Baltimore has again been selected and will host the 2010 Conference. Ms. Katrina Harris will return to skillfully guide the conference planning committee which will be Co-Chaired by Battalion Chief Mark Wagner (BCFD), Mike Austin (CSX) and Director Maloney (OEM).

A survey of attendees at today's meeting showed about a 50/50 ratio of government and business representatives. Efforts will be made to increase the participation and attendance by citizens and community representatives.

Presentation:

Chief Mark Wagner presented BCFD Chief of Fire Department Certificates of Appreciation for outstanding efforts during the planning and orchestration of the Operation Destination exercise which took place during last years' EPA Conference. The recipients were

1. Jerry Young - DPW
2. Geoff Donahue - MDE
3. Bob Swann - MDE
4. Art Mayfield - MDE
5. Terry Haney – MDE

Presentation – 2010 Hurricane Outlook and Preparedness- Chris Strong, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service, Sterling, VA

- Forecast offices are located in different areas throughout the country that focus on different potential weather threats that typically occur in that part of the country, and they are responsible to notify citizens of the threat.
- There are different levels of alerts broadcast to citizens. A “watch” indicates a potential risk that a storm will occur. A “warning” indicates that the storm is expected to occur. An advisory is a low level warning.
- He noted that the greatest threat to life and especially property over inland areas is storm surge flooding.

Presentation – February 2010 Snowstorms – Robert Maloney, Director MOEM

- The impact from the February snow storms could have had a catastrophic impact on the City of Baltimore. In preparation, based upon weather forecasts, the EOC activated with all agencies in place prior to the start of the storm. What started out as a mission to keep the city open changed to a mission to keep city employees safe when the message was received from the NWS to not go outside (this message was confirmed by a conversation between Director Maloney and Chris Strong, NWS).
- Efforts directed by the OEM under the IMT Commander included:
 - Calling in every available 4 wheel drive vehicle for use by the Police to keep the city safe.
 - Requesting the National Guard to respond with 5Ton Trucks – and equipping them with hose in the back to assist BCFD in the monumental task of responding to and fighting fires.
 - Dispatching an Engine with the Medic Unit on each EMS response. (Noted – In other jurisdictions EMS calls usually decrease during major weather events; however in Baltimore City EMS calls typically increase.)
 - Coordinating the many private contractors who responded to the calls for assistance in snow removal.
 - Provided services to avoid overwhelming 911 calls such as – Para-transports for the Medically dependant (dialysis etc); Food delivery and transport of workers to feed senior citizens and homeless (Salvation Army Overlea Caterers);
 - Commended for efforts in assisting and coordinating resources included the Downtown Partnership. Also hospitals that provided shelter for homeless and food and along with downtown hotels, offered respite for Public Safety employees.
 - CERT teams were activated to clear bus stops and coordinate neighbors helping neighbor efforts.

In summary, there was great coordination of efforts between the city and private entities and overall the City did a great job in continuing to provide services to the residents. There were many lessons learned which were identified and discussed in an After Action Review of the event and will be documented in the After Action Report.

PROGRAM/SECTOR REPORTS

Government

Incidents & Events – Rich Williams, MOEM

- In addition to the events during the snow storm, a summary of recent events were reviewed, which included water main breaks, building fires, gas leaks and flooding incidents.

UPCOMING EVENTS – Bob Maloney

May 15th – The Preakness at Pimlico

2011 – Labor Day Weekend – Indy Car Race in downtown Baltimore

2012 – US Naval Fleet/Tall Ships return to the Inner Harbor

Training & Exercises – Wayne Brown, MOEM

- **HB 770 (Partners in Preparedness)** An Emergency Preparedness Training event will be conducted on May 24, 2010 at the Mt. Washington Conference Center. Training is being provided to prepare Assisted Living and Nursing Home Facilities in the City of Baltimore to meet the requirements of COMAR regulation 10.07. For more information contact Wayne.Brown@baltimorecity.gov
- **ICS Courses** The next two classes have been scheduled for early May and June; however both classes are full at this time. The scheduling process has begun for the next round of classes. Information will be forthcoming.
- Other upcoming exercises include:
 - 5/13 – Regional Transportation/evacuation Exercise
 - 6/1 or 11 – Penn Station Emergency Capabilities TTX
 - 6/17 – TSA/Coast Guard – Multiple Modes of Transportation TTX
 - 6/29 – Anthrax TTX
 - Mid June or July – Functional Shelter set up Exercise
 - July – MTA Operation Rescue Above TTX
 - August – Biohazard Detection System Functional Exercise
 - September – Operation Rescue Above Full Scale Exercise
 - TBD – High Rise Fire/Collapse Full Scale Exercise
 - 11/3 – 10 Vigilant Guard Full Scale Exercise (City & National Guard)

CERT – Richard Williams

- **Two CERT/Red Cross Volunteers were awarded the Governor's Volunteer Service Award on April 19, 2010 in Annapolis, MD. Congratulations were extended to: Ms. Rosalie Pack and Mr. James Elliott.**
- Team training continue to train
- Wyman Park has completed training
- Pigtown has partnered with the University of Maryland School of Nursing to establish a team
- Several CERT teams are in the process of planning for an upcoming gathering of all the pertinent partners (government, public and private entities, citizens and community groups) for a sharing of information and familiarization.

SBIMAP – South Baltimore Industrial Mutual Aid Plan

- Meetings are held quarterly. The next meeting will be May 20th at MDE located in Montgomery Park.

BEACON – Pat Nowlan

- This is a notification system which broadcasts alerts to the public and private sectors during any type of an emergency. It was successfully activated during the February 2010 snow storms.

RACES – Pat Nowlan

- This group of approximately 25 enthusiastic Ham Radio Volunteers meets and conducts exercises regularly. They activate as needed to provide emergency backup radio communications from fixed sites throughout the city. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact Rich Williams at 410-396-6175 or via email Richard.williams@baltimorecity.gov

H1N1 Update – Deb Hammond, BCHD

- Vaccinations are still being provided. So far more than 30,000 have been administered as compared to 5000 in a year during the typical flu season. CERT teams were commended for their help in managing thru-put at various vaccination sites.

Businesses

Corporate Emergency Access System (CEAS) Update – Laura Ponzio

- This is a post-emergency access control credentialing system which provides a secure form of identification recognized by law enforcement for critical private sector employees allowing priority

access to restricted areas once safety permits. So far, there are seven corporations in the downtown business district who have enrolled in the program, and eleven more have begun the process to enroll. For more information go to www.ceas.com

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Gene Taylor of the National Aquarium commended the City (especially MOEM & the Water/Waste Water Department) for assistance during two recent events that impacted their facility recently.

The date of the next LEPC general meeting will be July 29, 2010. Recommendations for location or interest in hosting the meeting should be forwarded to Captain Richard Williams
Richard.williams@baltimorecity.gov